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To open a second front

■ The success of many a war policy depends on the understanding and cooperation of the civilian. Those at home can open up and stand firm on a second front behind the lines. The Army, both here and abroad, is using vast amounts of clothing and food. In addition, shipments are being sent to our allies as rapidly as possible. Any such big shifts in the usual markets lead to dislocations, shortages, rising prices, rationing, and fear in the hearts of the people.

Measures are being taken to meet this domestic dislocation of clothing and foods, but they can be effective only with the whole-hearted cooperation of American homemakers. The extent to which rigid rationing and price fixing will have to be resorted to depends on the actions of the buyers of food and clothing, usually the woman in the family.

Home demonstration workers living close to rural families are organizing through a series of regional conferences to put the full weight of their influence behind an educational campaign to develop an attitude of cooperation on the part of every rural family.

Clothing specialists, nutritionists, home demonstration leaders, and 4-H Club leaders are counseling together to plan an intensive program in wartime problems of food and clothing. They will meet in New York City, August 11 to 14; in Birmingham, Ala., August 18 to 21; in Chicago, Ill., August 25 to 28; in Salt Lake City, Utah, September 1 to 4. The program will reach down through nearly 7,000 county extension agents, and by way of more than a million neighborhood leaders will reach every rural family on the highways and byways of these United States. Representatives of the Bureau of Home Economics, Office of Price Administration, War Production Board, and other agencies are presenting the facts about the war situation.

The movement got off to a good start in a conference held in Washington July 22 to 25 when the regional conferences were planned by a group of State and Federal workers, advising with the war agencies.

Rural families, as those of the city, hear rumors of scarcity and rationing and, unthinkingly, do the very thing which will bring it about. Yet those who are studying supplies of essential food and clothing assure the people

that there is enough to take care of an adequate supply for essential needs.

Prices did rise alarmingly—as much as 60 percent on women's cotton dresses, and yet the supply of cotton is adequate. The shortage of percale and certain cotton dress goods is due to a pressure on looms to clothe the armed forces and to supply cotton bagging to replace burlap bags so commonly in use on the farm.

Only about 50 percent of the usual amount of wool will be available to civilians this year, and yet new blends of woolens, cotton, and rayon yarns are being developed which will stretch the supply of wool to meet ordinary needs and may prove as serviceable for many uses. Nylon is being taken over for military uses, but rayons are being improved and developed to replace other fibers.

The prospect for foods also looks very good for the coming year—that is, the outlook is good from the standpoint of nutrition, and irritating from the standpoint of getting everything we have been used to.

There is no shortage of fresh vegetables. The fruit supply will be about the same as last year except perhaps in places where weather conditions cause local surpluses or shortages. Milk is at a record high level of production and, even with the additional strain of supplying our Army and lease-lend shipments, should give civilians a normal supply of fluid milk, butter, cheese, and other dairy products.

The supply of meat should be very close to the average for the past 2 or 3 years, with some increase in beef and a decrease in pork because of lease-lend needs. Sugar supplies are related to the shipping shortage. Even with increased war demands for food, civilians may be as well off this year as last with the exception of some canned foods and certain concentrated or highly processed foods.

With food prices up 20 percent and general nonagricultural income up 60 percent over 1935-39, the pressure on food supplies, especially certain foods, will be great, even though supplies are average or normal. The great war shortage of steel for civilian use and pressure on transportation facilities will affect the processing of some foods and perhaps make surpluses of certain foods in one region and

shortages in another. These dislocations can be greatly eased with the cooperation of homemakers in buying certain victory specials of which there is a surplus or by substituting for foods which may be temporarily short.

War has brought a great expansion in the dehydration of vegetables and fruits. By dehydration, foods can be sent across the water minus the heavy water content which would take up precious shipping space. Though most of these dehydrated foods will be sent across the seas, still women need to keep up with the development.

The rubber and steel scarcity will affect truck shipping and make changes in distribution. Efforts are being made to streamline transportation so that it will be 100 percent effective with no overlapping and no waste space in such things as the carrying of food to markets or distribution from the terminal market.

Necessity for action is sometimes brought home in small ways. In the big ranch section of Colorado, the women were not in the least interested in Victory gardens because, as they said, they had no place for a garden. One day they tried to get pins at the local store, and there were none; pins, just common, ordinary pins, were completely off the market. It was a shock, and soon after, the women went together and found a good place to plant their garden together. For, if pins could go off the market so suddenly, perhaps it would be a good idea to have tomatoes and fresh vegetables to supply plenty of good wholesome food on their own ranches.

If good citizens understand and refuse to buy anything above the ceiling price they will help make antiinflation measures effective. Rural women, as all American women, are patriotic. They want to do something to help win the war. The war agencies suggest that they streamline their scale of living, that they change their habits of eating and dressing to fit into the war program, and that they buy within the price ceiling to stop that vicious spiral of inflation. The second front of any war campaign is in the Nation's homes—in their kitchens. It is here that some of the Nation's war policies will stand or fall. Extension workers believe that it is a matter of understanding, and they have pledged themselves to an intensive campaign in rural areas that every homemaker shall stand firm on the second front.

Leaders carry the load

Placing responsibility squarely on the shoulders of neighborhood leaders is producing strong neighborhood groups able to reach important war goals more quickly

HENRY L. JONES, County Agricultural Agent, Webster County, Miss.

■ At a joint meeting of the Webster County, Miss., USDA War Board, of which I am secretary, and the County Coordinating Council which was held at Eupora, March 2, the subject of the effective community and neighborhood organization developed by the Extension Service and necessary for carrying on the educational phases of the war effort was discussed. After a thorough discussion of the various methods used to keep rural people informed on agricultural subjects and program compliance, it was agreed that our educational and informational methods gave too little responsibility to leaders and individuals working with the leaders. The most effective means of getting good neighborhood organizations might be to hand the responsibility directly to the people of the neighborhood with as little interference from paid agricultural leaders as possible in setting up the original neighborhood leadership.

To start the ball rolling, a man or a woman in the local neighborhood to be organized was selected as a temporary local leader to bring the people together, discuss with them the problems confronting them, and leave to them the selection of their local discussion group leader. This group leader was charged with the responsibility of taking information about the war program to the people and making a report relative to attendance, subject discussed, and general conditions pertaining to the war effort.

Elected local leaders were not confined to specific subjects. In fact, they were encouraged to place before the group any matters of importance that needed attention in the neighborhood. They, in turn, placed a definite responsibility on each family in the neighborhood to enter into the discussion, for the sake of knowing the attitude and personal feelings of all in the group toward accomplishing things that must be done. In this type of organization, local leaders and paid agricultural workers have a clearer understanding of how to approach and carry out emergency programs with the highest degree of efficiency.

A major problem for organized neighborhood groups of this kind is the difficulty of transportation to meetings and other places where information can be had about things that must be done to carry on war efforts. Agricultural leaders foresaw the shortage of transportation facilities which would curtail educational programs in the field. Producers also, confronted with shortage of transportation facilities, increased work to do, and shortage of

labor, can attend fewer meetings. Naturally, if meetings were closer and held at a convenient time, producers could attend more of them. For this reason, the time of meeting is left to the group leaders, who will choose a convenient time for most of the people.

The general conception in our set-up is that if you place direct responsibility upon an individual for carrying on the program of work in a given neighborhood, there will be more discussion in a neighborhood meeting at some farm home where people know each other intimately than in a large community gathering. No doubt there will be greater interest in attending the local meeting if the people are allowed more freedom of discussion.

Our former system of holding regular community meetings did not reach a large percentage of our small farmers and tenants who had no means, or poor means, of transportation. The neighborhood-discussion-group plan will place information within walking distance of practically all farm families.

This organization in the county is by

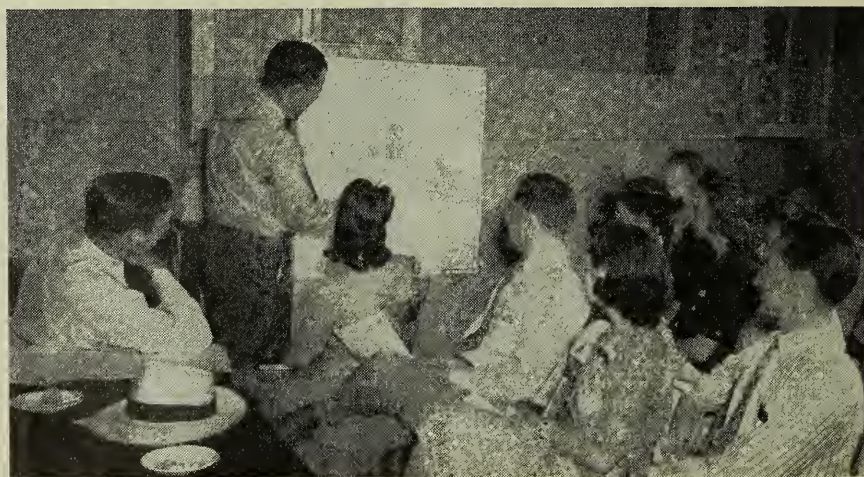
no means complete. To date, 47 neighborhood groups have been set up and local leaders elected by the people. At least 60 percent of these are having meetings monthly. Some that I have attended by invitation have shown considerable interest. The idea seems to be meeting the approval of local people. We have had reports from a number of individuals in the organized groups stating that the people are well impressed with this method of disseminating information.

Agricultural leaders will visit local leaders and check with them on the progress and general conditions in neighborhoods and communities.

A county map has been nearly completed, delineating the communities and all the well-defined neighborhoods; and as groups are organized and set up, neighborhoods are subdivided according to the opinions and views of the families in the groups. When this map is completed, and a write-up made for each neighborhood, it will be submitted to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at State College, Miss., and a copy of the map will be prepared for each of the agricultural agencies represented in the county, for use in carrying out their programs.

It is believed that the community neighborhood group set-up is going to enable voluntary leaders to work more closely together, and more effectively reach farm people with information. The result will be an economic saving to the farm people, and important goals will be reached more quickly.

Council supports neighborhood leaders



The Agricultural Workers Council of Lee County, N. C., meets to discuss the training of neighborhood leaders and the community and neighborhood boundaries. Each member

of the council of 24 members has taken the responsibility of advising a group of leaders—a system which has produced excellent results in this county.

To stop the waste of topsoil

Conservation of the soil is important in the wartime program of 110 Missouri counties. Knowing this, all agencies got together in holding contour-farming meetings during the past spring. The result was an estimated increase of 85 percent in row crops contoured and an estimated acreage of 480,000 contoured. The following story by County Agent Paul N. Doll tells what this means in Cooper County.

■ To prevent their fertile topsoil from washing into the nearby Missouri River, Cooper County farmers carry on a soil- and fertility-conserving program that ranks close to the top among counties of the State. The program represents effort that has been put forth during the past decade, gathering force with each passing year. But the wartime program to save the soil for needed crops to feed the Army, meet lease-lend requirements and other emergency needs, added force this year.

The strides this county is taking are clearly evident. Last year 93 miles of terraces protecting 3,180 acres were built there, thus placing the county first in terracing among counties of the State. This rate of building continues, and last year's total may even be surpassed.

Contouring (around-the-slope tillage) was practiced by 260 farmers on 8,400 acres in 1941, but probably the year 1942 will see 10,000 acres so handled. More than 57,000 forest-tree seedlings have been planted there this year to be used as aids in controlling soil erosion, in establishing wood lots, or in starting windbreaks.

Already, 25,000 tons of limestone have been ordered, and the agricultural conservation committee estimates that a total of 50,000 tons will be flung over fields there by the whirling blades of the 12 spreader-bed trucks that strive to keep pace with a crusher that can turn out 300 tons of ground limestone a day. The price of the limestone delivered and spread is \$1.87 a ton on any farm in the county. To aid farmers in determining the lime needs of their soil, the county extension office runs soil tests almost daily.

That Cooper County realizes the importance of using limestone to condition the soil is shown by the fact that more than 100,000 of the county's 177,000 acres of cropland regularly grow legumes. Legumes furnish first-class hay and pasture, put nitrogen into the soil, and hold down erosion losses more drastically than when soil is planted to row crops. To grow legumes successfully in Missouri, liming is the first need on most fields that have not been so treated.

An 8-day soil-conservation training school sponsored last year by the Extension Service in Cooper County was participated in by 26 men. They learned the steps for carry-

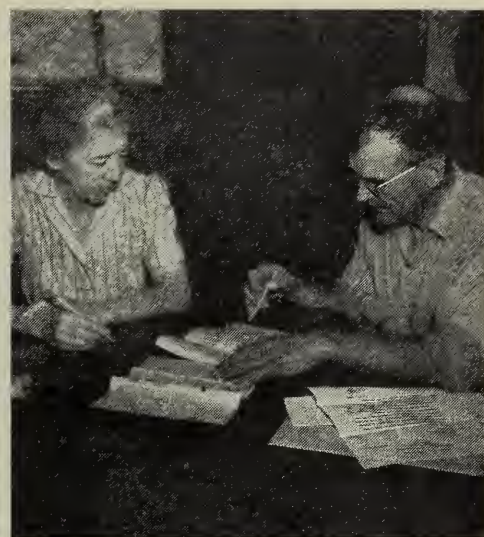
ing out a complete conserving system on their farms; and they acquired techniques which have enabled them to aid their neighbors in laying out terraces, building dams, and doing other such work.

The keen interest with which Cooper countians follow developments in agriculture is shown further by their attendance at their annual soils and crops conference, a winter gathering at which progress is reviewed and plans are made for the county program in the year ahead. For several years farm families have flocked to this conference in such numbers that the attendance has been greater than that of any other of the 114 county gatherings. This year has been no exception, as 816 men and women attended the all-day meeting in Boonville.

Two lists which mean much to farmers of that county are the Cooper County terracing honor roll, on which are written the names of 221 farmers who have a satisfactory terracing system under way, and the Cooper County liming honor roll, which contains the names of 67 operators who have limed 75 percent or more of their land. Both these lists will be lengthened as additional farmers qualify.

Every extension meeting of farm people, no matter why it was called, devotes a few minutes to discussion of liming, terracing, contouring, growing legumes, and other soil conservation practices. An active county soil conservation association has advanced the program in the county by making facilities available. The State conservation commission has contributed to the program and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has given active support. The Soil Conservation Service has completed agreement on 49 farms from October 1939 to November 1941. All working together, the farm people of Cooper County are keeping their eyes on the goal—fertile soils which contain the necessary elements to produce abundant and nutritious crops for human and livestock consumption. Their success in the farming business will be determined to a large degree by proper soil conditions.

■ Alabama 4-H boys and girls have bought nearly \$100,000 worth of war bonds and stamps, collected nearly 1,000 tons of scrap iron, and planted 34,000 Victory gardens.



They Brought in the Pledges

Mrs. S. M. Holman and D. E. Brady, community leaders in Natural Bridge, Va., are checking up on their war bond and stamp pledges. Neighborhood leaders in this community brought in \$92,000 in pledges to buy war bonds and stamps.

"An interesting thing about this bond campaign," said a local newspaper woman, "is that the rural districts pledged more than the city of Lexington. That never happened before in any of our other campaigns." The difference was in the Extension Service's neighborhood leadership system which carried the bond campaign into rural areas. The Natural Bridge district brought in the largest number of pledges in the county.

Iowa Pushes Home Canning

Iowa's efficient organization of neighborhood leaders, a man and a woman for each school district, has begun the big push on home canning. The 14,000 volunteer homemaker leaders who are educational co-operators, are being trained in the skills of rural women's war work in canning and gardening.

Schools in canning and freezing foods were held for these neighborhood leaders by home demonstration agents in counties having agents and by extension home economics specialists in the other counties.

The schools offered practical experience in canning corn, which probably is harder to keep than any other food; spinach, typical of the greens that American diets lack; tomatoes, valuable source of vitamin C; and rhubarb, one of the garden's earliest canning candidates. String beans, peas, and rhubarb were prepared for freezing in communities where there are refrigerated locker plants. Special attention was given to the four types of spoilage—fermentation, flat sour, botulism and putrefaction—and their causes.

Each of the 14,000 women leaders will pass on the information to the women of her 4-square-mile neighborhood as it is needed.



James Agler, member of the Harmony Township Livestock Club, meets his 4-H salvage quota and receives his 4-H Victory button. Club leader William Trexel pins it on.

4-H Clubs push salvage campaign

■ In the first 5 months of 1942, 6,482 tons of scrap iron collected in the rural areas of Clark County, Ohio, passed through the hands of scrap dealers in the county.

Much of the credit for this record in the collection of salvage is due the 4-H Club members and their leaders. Other cooperating groups were the boards of education, the council of rural civilian defense, the village councils, and the USDA War Board.

A county-wide campaign was made from May 20 to June 6 with the president of each school board and the mayors of the villages as chairmen of the campaign in their respective territories.

On May 18 a letter was sent to every 4-H Club member and leader. That letter urged the members to cooperate and take part in the county-wide Salvage for Victory campaign. A copy of the Salvage for Victory folder was also sent to each member and leader.

Committee members working in each school district say the interest and enthusiasm shown by the boys and girls is the most important factor in getting scrap iron moved. The 4-H boys and girls not only gathered scrap material themselves, but they urged others to gather it.

Attractive 4-H Victory buttons are being given by the Clark County 4-H Club Council to members who save 1,000 pounds of scrap, 500 pounds of old rubber, 200 pounds of paper, or 150 pounds of rags, or who sell war stamps to the value of \$100.

To date, club members have collected 198,516 pounds of scrap metal, 10,261 pounds of scrap paper, 3,317 pounds of old rags and burlap, and 1,163 pounds of rubber.

More than 70 members in Clark County have qualified for Victory buttons, and more will soon reach the goal, according to reports from club agents. Three members have received Victory buttons for the sale of war stamps.

The collection of scrap material is left entirely up to the club agent and the members. Some club members are buying war stamps; others are saving the money in order to attend 4-H camp. A club in Moorfield Township gave part of the money they received from the scrap to the Red Cross. Another club is using the money to buy recreation equipment.

Boys Collect Ten Tons

Ten tons of scrap metal and a considerable quantity of scrap rubber and paper, is the record of the Centerville 4-H Small-Fruits Club, Monmouth County, N. J. The members went about their campaign in a businesslike way. First, handbills were printed, telling of the need for scrap metal and signed by a committee of leaders and parents. The handbill gave definite dates when collections would be made.

Their township had been divided into four defense areas, and the boys decided to work only in their own areas. This quarter of the

township they divided into routes, and each boy covered a route, distributing handbills at every house.

Two trucks with a half dozen members on each went through the area on three Saturdays and collected material donated by farmers. All the scrap was dumped in one place, and the club accumulated enough to make it worth while for a large truck to come, load it all up, and have it weighed in one load. This also enabled them to make a deal with a junk dealer nearby who bid \$12 a ton for the scrap iron.

Notifying the people in advance just when the collection was to be made was a feature of the campaign which, the club leaders believe, paid good returns. In many cases, after the first Saturday's collection, a farmer would say, "Come around next week, and I'll see that I have some material for you." Or he said: "There's an old binder back there in the woods. If you boys want to break it up, you may have it." Many of these people would not have permitted a junk dealer to scavenge around their places. The club is continuing its regular collections of scrap paper and rubber throughout the summer months.

■ The old saying that "where there's a will, there's a way" is being applied to the buying of war stamps and bonds by a group of 4-H Club girls in Atlantic County, N. J. These patriotic and businesslike young Americans have been budgeting their allowances and earnings according to a special 4-H account form and putting what they manage to save into war savings stamps. Twenty-five girls have been doing this for 3 months, and about 35 more have signed up for the project. The account form, entitled "Don't Let Those 4-H Dollars Fly Away," was supplied them by the State home management specialist at Rutgers University. By following their carefully planned budgets, these club members not only are aiding their country and saving their money, but they are also learning a lesson in money management that will serve them well the rest of their lives.

■ An outstanding 4-H Club girl, Ruby Carlson of Jefferson County, Colo., knits sweaters from her own yarn. She raises Angora rabbits, clips their wool, and spins yarn from it. A member of the Columbine 4-H Rabbit Club, one of the country's finest, Ruby began her rabbit project in 1937. Not only the first rabbit grew, but also the project, until, at one time, she had 25 beautiful white Angora rabbits.

She was not content to raise rabbits and sell them; she wished to make something of their wool. She and her mother searched for months until they found a small spinning wheel. Ruby then clipped her rabbits and spun their wool into fine yarn. She clips her rabbits about four times a year, each animal producing between 3 and 4 ounces of wool per clipping.

4-H production credit gives more food for war

■ Early in 1942, W. T. and Glenn Handley of Tallapoosa County, Ala., asked the Auburn Production Credit Association for a loan of \$310 with which to "grow out" 800 broilers and 200 pullets to increase "Food for Freedom." The loan was readily granted these two 4-H Club members, for they had established a fine repayment record with the association and owned some good livestock which previous loans had helped to develop.

A look at their livestock, conservatively valued at \$651, shows that they are making a real contribution to the production of "food that will win the war and write the peace." There are 2 cows and 2 heifers, all registered Jerseys; 1 boar, 1 gilt, and 1 sow, all registered Duroc Jerseys; 6 pigs, and a flock of 156 laying hens. In addition to milk, pork, and eggs, they are growing a larger number of broiler chickens than the lot successfully grown in 1941.

To support their livestock last year, they grew corn, hay, and kudzu seedlings and worked their crops with 2 young mules which they had bought as colts and raised on the farm. In 1941, the sale of 700 broilers and 35,500 kudzu seedlings at \$5.50 a thousand enabled Glenn and W. T. to make the payments due on their loans.

Until March 9, 1939, Glenn and W. T. were average 4-H Club members in the Camp Hill Club. They carried the usual projects of cotton, corn, and "grew out" a pig or two for home use. In the spring of 1939, the Tallapoosa County 4-H Jersey Calf Club was organized. The members of this organization, including Glenn and W. T., were financed by the Auburn Production Credit Association.

When Mr. G. O. Winter, secretary-treasurer of the association, visited the boys to take their application for a loan, he stressed the importance of carrying some supplementary project to assist in liquidating the loan. Glenn and W. T. selected cotton for this purpose; but unfavorable weather conditions and boll-weevil damage made their crop a complete failure, and they were unable to make any payment on their notes when they were due.

The notes were renewed in 1940. The boys planted 1 acre in kudzu for seedling production, and the sale of seedlings from this acre paid their notes to the association and left the boys a neat profit to invest in other projects.

Events are moving fast, however, and W. T., who recently passed his twenty-first birthday, is now an aeromechanic, doing his bit even more directly to help win the war. Meanwhile, Glenn, who has just turned 17, is taking care of "mine and W. T.'s projects" and is receiving the continued encouragement

of parents who have always backed up their sons in 4-H work. The sale of the 800 broilers and the kudzu seedlings (now a 3-acre project) should enable him to pay all their debts in 1942; and, "just in case," Glenn can rely on income from the sale of eggs, or pigs, or, after the condensery is completed, on income from milk.

The loan made to these boys in the winter of 1942, like the one starting their Jersey project, was part of a group loan participated in by 18 other Tallapoosa County 4-H Club boys and girls who all have poultry projects. Scattered over the country in 1942 are about 5,000 other 4-H Club members who are using loans like these from the production credit associations in producing "Food for Freedom."

In 1941, 554 groups of 4-H Club members borrowed \$376,173 for 4,468 members to use in carrying on their projects. This represents a growth from 216 group loans of \$173,790 to 2,154 members in 1936. A survey made last winter by the Farm Credit Administration of loans to rural young people showed that losses and estimated losses, 1936 to 1941, inclusive, were four-tenths of 1 percent of the amount loaned.

Over in Pontotoc County, Miss., the farmers have had fewer cows and less dairy income than in surrounding counties. In 1939 Paul Keller, the county agent, and D. H. Echols, his assistant, decided to use the 4-H Clubs as one means of carrying on a dairy educational program. To finance the purchase of purebred Jersey heifers, they worked out a plan with the Tupelo Production Credit Association which had already made a number of group loans in other counties. Mr. Echols acted as trustee for the boys in handling the loan. When he moved to another county as agent the following year, his successor, J. S. Mills, assumed responsibility for the undertaking.

In April 1939 the association lent the group \$933 for the purchase of 13 registered heifers and 1 bull. By March 1940 the interest in the club had grown; and another loan of \$1,370 was made to 22 boys to buy registered Jersey heifers. In March and April 1941, \$930 to another group of boys bought 13 more heifers. At the end of 1941 the dairy club had 55 members enrolled and owned 3 registered bulls in addition to the cows and heifers.

In spite of the fact that Pontotoc County has had 3 adverse crop years, these boys have met the payments on their calves as due. Each boy has 1 to 2 acres of cotton, 1 acre of corn, and 1 acre of hay. The one-third payment of principal each year is made from cotton sales. One boy sold a bull calf from his heifer for enough to pay his loan. The heifers purchased in 1939 were paid out in 1941. Many of the heifers are now in milk,

and about 50 percent of them have calves. A number of the boys are selling milk.

The Pontotoc County 4-H Club calves have been on the show circuit each year and have been consistent in winning money and ribbons. They have made enough on the circuit to pay for fitting and transportation and the expenses of boys in attendance. At the various shows in 1941, a total of 22 boys spent a week each, helping to fit and show the calves. At Memphis several of them participated in two radio broadcasts, and the dairy-cattle judging team won third place for Midsouth teams.

The results of this well-planned, carefully managed, and soundly financed project on dairying in Pontotoc County is evident from County Agent Keller's statement that the number of dairy club members could have been doubled in 1941 had good heifers been available at former prices. He continues, in his annual report: "Dairying is fast becoming an important industry in this county. The local milk plant has more than doubled its output over last year. We feel that we will easily reach our goal in our Food for Freedom program."

Following the survey made last winter, and other evidence of the growing success from the loans to rural young people, the procedure for making the loans has been simplified by the production credit associations.

Eisenhower to War Information

Milton S. Eisenhower, formerly Associate Director of the Extension Service and more recently Director of the War Relocation Authority, was appointed June 17 by President Roosevelt as Deputy Director of the Office of War Information, assisting Director Elmer Davis in the administration of that office. Mr. Eisenhower has spent 18 of his 42 years with the United States Department of Agriculture and is familiar with Government organization, policies, and procedures. As Director of Information for the Department, he laid the ground work for the comprehensive organization through which the Department maintains a constant flow of information to farm people. In his position as Land Use Coordinator for the Department, he planned the correlation of land use and credit activities. During his brief period as Associate Director of the Extension Service, he exerted a profound influence on department policy with respect to educational work in support of agriculture's war program.

Dillon S. Meyer, who succeeds Mr. Eisenhower as Director of the War Relocation Authority, spent 18 years of his life in the Extension Service—first with the Indiana State staff, then 2 years as county agent in Franklin County, Ohio, and 12 years as county agent supervisor in the same State. More recently, Mr. Meyer has been serving as Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration.

Idaho farmer muses on Victory gardens in Boise Valley

MARTHA MacNAMARA, of Boise, a student of the University of Idaho

■ J. Q. Farmer of Horse Shoe Bend, Idaho, viewed his alfalfa with pleasure. The late afternoon breeze carried the sweet fragrance to his nostrils. His eyes wandered slowly over the small valley where he and his friends had spent their lives working with the soil.

This community of his was not very large and represented only a small part of Boise County. Livestock and alfalfa thrived best in these Idaho valleys. Of course, his alfalfa yields had not been so great this year as in the past when the soil was new and not worn out from producing, year after year. His neighbors were having the same trouble, however, and it had been discussed at the last county meeting.

All this had been before he and his neighbors had fully realized the value of organizing local planning boards and committees.

At the last community meeting, a report had been read which told of the organizations and work that were springing up all over Boise County. The entire county had been divided into four communities—his own community, Horse Shoe Bend, including Jerusalem Valley and extending up the Payette River as far as Banks; Brownlee, which took in the area between the Gem County line and the Payette River; Garden Valley, which included Crouch and Lowman; and Moore's Creek, which included Centerville, Robie Creek, Placerville, and Idaho City.

As he refilled his pipe, his thoughts were about the last county committee meeting. He and his friends had been surprised to realize how close the war really was. That talk given by E. R. Bennett, the State extension horticulturist, had left no doubt in their minds. He had explained the importance of Victory Gardens. They had not realized before that their livelihood for the duration of the war would depend on them.

J. Q. smiled tenderly as he remembered Mrs. Farmer's interest in the gardens. She had worked hard, putting as much into the soil as he had and getting little in return. Not many years ago, she had attempted to grow a small garden in their back yard. She had been so pleased one afternoon to see the tops of carrots, beets, and other vegetables peeking through the ground. A tight white line had encircled her mouth as she had gazed at her work the next morning. No vegetable tops had greeted her eyes. The squirrels from nearby timberland had made quick work of the cherished garden.

Vigorously she had gone to work again and had surrounded the garden with a wire-netting fence and several traps. It had done

no good. Somehow, the gluttonous animals had worked their way in and once more destroyed the work which had been put into the tiny plot. He remembered that he had felt like burning the woods in order to destroy the pesky wretches which had succeeded in making his wife weep in an alarming way.

Poisoned grain would have taken care of them, but it cost money—money which neither he nor his friends had. When they had told Mr. Bennett of their problem, he had suggested that they buy it from the county. But the county budget would not stand up under the payment for the grain which the Fish and Wildlife Service required. Of course, the farmers would pay it individually, but it would have to be purchased from the Service before it could be distributed. However, he thought, as he puffed away at his pipe, maybe the community committee could offer some kind of answer. It had to be done though—and soon; those gardens were important, not only to him and to his family but to the whole world.

A county committee investigation, possibly working out a way of distributing the grain, might be a solution. Then, too, he thought

W. E. Shull, extension specialist on insect control from the University of Idaho, would be here soon. Maybe he could offer some solution. He was going to study the vegetables which would be grown and the way to control insects that would attack them. He was also going to demonstrate spraying and dusting equipment along with other materials to help the gardens.

J. Q. shook his head musingly as he recalled the question of help, which had been brought up at the meeting. There was a shortage now, and there would probably be a greater one later. This meant that somehow the communities were going to produce more crops than last year, grow gardens, and, if possible, cut down on the amount of help used. How it was to be done was a question yet unanswered. It might mean losses which the Nation could not afford right now, and it undoubtedly meant more work. If they could just do their share of work to help in the fight, he or his neighbors would not mind so much, and they would manage some way.

With a start, he suddenly realized that the sun was casting long shadows over his fields and the late afternoon had turned chilly. Glancing at his watch, he discovered that he had been lost in his thoughts for more than an hour. He paused, struck by the peacefulness of the little valley in which he lived, and for a moment tried to visualize his fields in ruin. Failing to capture the picture, he was brought back to reality by a voice calling, and he hurried up the hill to his supper.

Chickens have priority



This chicken house—once a crossroads filling station in Rockbridge County, Va.—helps to meet the Nation's need for more chickens and

eggs to supply food for the Army, for war workers, for "lease-lend" shipments and for the rest of us.

Plans to meet war problems show faith of people in the land

DR. EDWARD C. ELLIOTT, President, Purdue University

■ This Nation of ours has long rated itself as the world center of opportunity for the individual. During the years of the present century, this Nation, slowly and uncertainly, has become aware that, in addition to being a land of personal opportunity, for the years of the present, it must also be a land of public obligation for the years of the future. The shift of attention from opportunity to obligation is, at no point, more dramatically evident than in our changing plans, policies, and practices for dealing with our productive earth.

Starting in 1940, planning committees in Indiana counties in which land use mapping was completed, listed some of their specific agricultural problems affecting the economic and social welfare of rural people. One or more problems were selected for further analysis and study, and definite objectives were set up for their solution. Among the problems were soil-erosion control, increased use of limestone, rural relief, local governmental costs, rural electrification, farm water supply, rural zoning, public drainage, reforestation, and pasture improvement.

Some specific things which have been accomplished by the efforts of these committees should be mentioned. Newton and St. Joseph Counties today have rural zoning ordinances to regulate housing in rural areas based on health and sanitary standards. In 10 other counties, special committees have been set up to study the possibility of their counties adopting rural zoning ordinances patterned somewhat after rural zoning ordinances of Newton and St. Joseph Counties. The committees have in mind preventing misdirected migration of people back to the land after the war, which would bring about unwise use of land and many other economic and social problems.

Noble, Newton, Greene, and Owen Counties have organized soil-conservation districts for erosion control as a result of the activities of the county planning committees in those counties. Brown County has a rural electrification line extended from Jackson County. When this project was proposed, it was turned down by the Washington office of the Rural Electrification Administration on the grounds that the United States Forest Service had classified much of the area as unsuited to farming. But, due to factual evidence presented by the Brown County Land Use Planning Committee relative to property valuations and incomes of the people in the area, the project was later approved. To reduce local governmental costs, Martin County has consol-

idated four townships into two. Also, in that county, the county infirmary has been closed and its inmates have been transferred to the adjoining county.

The land use planning committees gave material assistance in the acquisition of the 60,000-acre proving grounds in Jefferson, Jennings, and Ripley Counties and developed plans for local banks to finance clients until the Government paid them for their farms. Furthermore, these committees saw that lists of farms for sale throughout southeastern Indiana were made available to farmers who were forced to sell their farms and who wanted to continue in farming. As a result of these efforts, 600 families were relocated with a minimum of disturbance and a minimum of public expense.

Thirteen county committees have set up goals for increased use of agricultural limestone. These goals and plans for their achievement have been referred to the County Extension Service, AAA, and other agencies that have influenced a tremendous increase in tonnage applied in these counties. Plans for building new roads and schools are being influenced in several counties by the County Land Use Planning Committees, which are pointing out population trends and the adaptability of the land to continuing agriculture. Likewise, in a number of counties, the policy of credit agencies has been reshaped to conform with the recommendations of the county land use planning committees.

Public Drainage Studied

This year in 20 counties of the State the county planning committees have undertaken a study of the problem of public drainage. These studies include (1) mapping all the public drains in the county, both open and tile; (2) appraisal of the condition of each drain, the factors contributing to its condition; (3) determining the annual cost of maintenance of each drain; and (4) determining the extent of the annual crop damage along each drain. These studies are conducted in each township and then summarized into a county report. If, in the opinion of the committee, there is inadequate maintenance of their drains, recommendations for improvement of maintenance are being made. If these proposals do not come within the scope of our present State drainage laws, recommended changes in law are being proposed.

At the present time, agricultural planning must focus most of its efforts on problems that directly concern the war effort. In each county, land-use planning committees are working

with the United States Employment Service to help meet the farm labor problem which is becoming acute in many counties this year and will become more acute next year. In order that at least some of the expected post-war shocks and dislocations can be prevented, county planning committees throughout the State have given some study, developing policies and making specific recommendations on how to keep agriculture on a sound basis during and after the war. These recommendations are centered on finance, local government and taxes, land use and conservation, relation of agriculture to industry and labor, and international trade. The publicity of these recommendations through the press, has undoubtedly done much to stimulate thought among our people and to help crystallize public opinion on important issues.

The fundamental and important fact is that farm people, by proper analysis of problems confronting them, can develop policies and set up programs or guides for existing programs designed to solve them, whether they be economic, social, or governmental problems. Many of the things done by the various land use planning committees have reflected themselves in the many recommendations to the National Resources Planning Board.

National Planning

It is in connection with the broad social and economic questions affecting our entire economy that agricultural planning breaks down unless it becomes a part of or is associated with an over-all planning group which carries the planning process to all groups of society. Many of the questions most vital to agriculture's welfare are of this nature, such as education, the freedom with which the surplus of agricultural youth may flow into the various industrial fields, price and production policies, transportation, taxation, credit, international trade, and many others. If planning is to be most effective in connection with these problems, they must be approached from the national rather than the group standpoint and the planning process carried to industry, labor, and agriculture alike. More interplay between the groups must take place at various levels. Agricultural planning must be more and more coordinated with national planning.

As I recall studies and surveys of the soil of the State made under the direction of Purdue during the past two decades, as I scrutinize the maps showing the nature and variety of the land areas of the State—defining and determining in a large measure its agricultural possibilities, as the county and State progress reports of the State land-use committees come to my desk for examination, I have the clear conviction that here is planning that represents the altruism of democracy—that altruism based on the faith of the people in their land, an altruism that will remain dynamic as long as the experts remain on tap and not on top, an altruism that has determined that the land is a trust held for the living of each coming generation.

To Map Natural Resources

Many Colorado farm boys will study the natural resources of the farms on which they live through a new 4-H conservation club program.

Each member of the conservation club will make a complete inventory of the natural resources of his farm or ranch and prepare a map showing the farm buildings, trees, corrals, roads, fields, and gullies on the farm. The acreage in each different field and the kind of crop grown will also be recorded, as will the direction of prevailing winds and the slope of the fields.

Other information on each map will include the average rainfall for the district in which the farm is located and, in irrigated sections, the amount of irrigation water the farm is entitled to. The club member also must write a story of the farm and discuss the factors found to be a help or a hindrance to the production of good crops or grass.

Club demonstrations on conservation will be given at meetings of county planning committees, local service clubs, or local soil-conservation districts. The maps will be exhibited at community and county fairs.

Alaska Gardens

During February, food-production and conservation schools were carried out in Anchorage and the Matanuska Valley, Alaska, with a very good attendance.

A second school had to be arranged for Anchorage March 16-21 when Dean George W. Gasser of the university gave a garden course. Many people are planning to grow gardens and small fruit. In the 4-H Clubs, 75 children signed up for Victory gardens, and the school and town people offered to help with the program.

For the Matanuska school, I had a home evaporator built, prepared directions for making, and gave a demonstration on how to use it. I also talked on Iron in the Diet and The Use of Dried Foods. I have been in extension work for a long time but never have seen such keen interest and great demand for extension work as here in Alaska.—*J. Hazel Zimmerman, 4-H Club leader, Alaska.*

Via Radio

In my weekly radio broadcast, 12:45 to 1 p. m., Monday, March 30, I mentioned having a few old-time heading winter collard seed and promised to mail some to anyone who would write me right then so I would receive it by Wednesday morning at the latest—36 hours. I thought a dozen or so folks would probably write me; but, to my consternation, I received 223 letters and cards.

The seed I had would not go to anywhere near that many. I was telling our district agent, Mr. Lazar, about it. As luck would have it, he had a good lot of the same sort of seed that he had saved from some he found

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TO DO IT!**
**Methods tried
and found good**

up in North Carolina a few years ago, and he gave me several quarts. Therefore, I was able to mail each one who wrote me a fair-size package of the seed.

I am urging everyone to listen in on the Monday broadcasts and to see the weekly newspaper column. In that manner, we can keep all of our folks informed on the many matters that come along during these busy times of all-out war effort. On account of the rubber-tire situation, all will have to do less traveling; therefore, meetings cannot play their usual part. However, we can chat with farm families over the radio and through the weekly column and, in that way, keep them informed.—*J. M. Elcaser, agricultural agent, Sumter County, S. C.*

After Pearl Harbor

The next day after Pearl Harbor, I began my work on the foods committee of the Defense Council. The first thing I did was to use Government food classifications and to estimate how much food was needed for the people of Molokai for 1 week. By that time the inventories were in, and from those figures I determined how long the food would last. The figures were sent to the Governor by the head of the Defense Council. Next, I made out an order for foods for a week's supply. Then the ration sheets were figured for the stores. Almost every day there was some new problem that kept me busy. For instance, after a few weeks of baking, Mr. Kawano, the baker, discovered that he had less than a pound of yeast. He had never heard of such a thing as potato yeast. I helped him to figure out how to use the yeast that was left over for making potato yeast, and this was multiplied until he had enough to make 500 loaves of bread a day. He also needed help in changing a family-sized recipe for bread to bakery proportions. It is amazing how many old practices in homemaking are being used, and the resourcefulness of the Molokai people is remarkable.

My extension program was suspended for the rest of December. During the month, the people concentrated on planting home gardens. Never has Molokai planted so many acres of home gardens. In January, I began to gather together my people and am gradually getting back to a regular program of

meetings. The program has changed greatly. The women are doing all sorts of food preservation. We are lucky to have 15 pressure cookers on Molokai that have been bought during the past year. These cookers are being put to good use in canning vegetables and meats. The women need help with their buying; but they all admit that they have never had more to eat, and all of them say that they have good food. Many have had to make adjustments in their diets, but from a nutrition viewpoint they are getting better food. The amounts in some classes of foods were closely limited at first, but now most people are buying as much as they are permitted, and are storing for future emergencies. I am giving them help with the problem of storing their foods, which is a problem in a warm climate.

The first month, there was no canned milk for adults, but now we may buy three cans a week. The sugar ration is 1 pound for each adult. We are allowed one-half pound of fats per week. Butter seems to be used up before the ships arrive at Molokai. I have had one-half pound of butter and 1 pound of margarine since December 7. The stores are short of some other things, also. No candy has been in the stores since Christmas; no nuts of any kind since the middle of January; no apples, oranges, or any mainland fruits. Molokai does not produce a great deal of fruit, so at times I miss fruits very much. I also miss the refined brown sugar and whole-grain flour and breads. Conditions are being improved gradually, and we believe that before long we shall be able to buy all foods.—*Martha L. Eder, county home demonstration agent, Molokai, Hawaii.*

On Tooting Horns

Recently a high school boy made this remark: "He that tooteth not his own horn the same shall not be tooted." This gave me an idea. No one can toot a horn if he does not have one to toot. When we get plenty of effort, then plenty of publicity for those efforts, the 4-H Club members are really playing the game while our publicity is busy tooting the horn, keeping them on their toes.

A faint blast was blown in Lowndes County, Ga., by regular news items in the Valdosta Daily Times, the Lowndes County News, and the Hahira Gold Leaf. The volume grew, and soon people all over the county were asking: "Just what is this 4-H Club work?" The more they asked the more we told them. We got a little bolder and a little louder, and more and more news articles appeared in the papers until right now we can hardly get into the office because of reporters wanting a different tune for their report to the papers.

Early in 1941, I got a nine-division window to hold enlarged pictures of all nine 4-H Club girls who did outstanding 4-H Club work during 1940 in Lowndes County. Before we could get it completed, the manager of one of the best stores in Valdosta offered us a

space in his window to place this exhibit for 2 weeks. You couldn't blame him if you knew how fine Lowndes County girls look. Others began to wake up, and I almost fainted when one of the newspaper offices offered a whole plate-glass window, 6 by 12 feet, for our exclusive use at all times. Needless to say, it has been in use ever since. Some of the exhibits used in this window have been: Wildlife Conservation, Canning by a Budget, Food Selection, Gardening, Marketing, 4-H Prepares for Defense, and 4-H Club Safety.

We have put a bulletin board in the courthouse and keep seasonable exhibits there, such as: Use More Cotton, What to Plant in the Garden Now, 4-H Club Projects, Selection of Cotton Clothes, First Aid, Nutrition, and others. We have bulletin boards ready to go into all schools in the county. Each of these bulletin boards when completed will have an American flag and pledge on the right top and a 4-H Club flag the same size and the 4-H Club pledge on the left side of the top. 4-H Club flags will soon be flying on every school staff in Lowndes County just beneath the American and British flags; then all children will help us to blow our horns when they give the salute.

Radio Station WGOV has cooperated wonderfully too in helping us with our horns. People must like the tunes we play because we hear many compliments about the fine work being done here. We have tooted our horn so much that everyone is stopping, looking, and listening. When you know a song, it sounds better; and now that people know what we are doing, they want to hear more, and we cannot attend all of the meetings to which we are invited. Recently, the 4-H Club paint team demonstration girls have attended five civic club groups to tell their story.

Is it true that no noise is made without an echo? The Lowndes County citizens are echoing back to us. One of the most prominent citizens in Valdosta made a talk to a civic group, in which he praised 4-H Club work to the sky and said it was the finest organization to which any child could belong and that no other group was doing such fine work as the 4-H Club in Lowndes County. Another member of a civic group said that the demonstration put on by club members for the Rotary Club was the best program they had enjoyed in several years. People enjoy our radio programs all over south Georgia and write to us asking questions about them. The paint team demonstration girls gave a demonstration by request to an adjoining county recently. We'll play our tune until every person in Lowndes County has enjoyed the sweet music of 4-H Club work.—*Audrey Morgan, home demonstration agent, Lowndes County, Ga.*

■ Iowa 4-H girls entertained naval trainees stationed at Iowa State College at the 4-H girls' "Service Revue" evening festival in June. The girls did marching routines and formed patriotic patterns, accompanied by a 4-H girls' drum corps.

Extension workers lead in establishing health co-op

■ The Sand Hills Cooperative Health Association was organized recently in Thedford, Nebr., after several years of studying and planning in which extension workers took an active part. More than 100 ranchers and townspeople from an area of several hundred square miles have invested \$30 a family by joining the co-op for better health.

The story of health and medical services in parts of the Sand Hills has not been a happy one during recent years. Four years ago, the town of Thedford lost its only doctor, and since then people have had to travel as far as 90 miles across the hills to get medical aid. Cases of pneumonia have occurred that might otherwise have been avoided. Hospital facilities have been available only at Alliance and Broken Bow, each 100 miles from Thedford.

The association was set up for Thomas County, part of Blaine, and southern Cherry County. Family memberships will provide about \$6,000, the Nebraska State Department of Health will provide \$4,000 of State and Federal funds for carrying on the public-health part of the program, and school districts and county commissioners will provide another \$2,000 for services rendered, making the total budget about \$12,000.

A doctor and a nurse will be selected by the association, subject to the approval of the State department of health. They will have an office in Thedford. The program will include a complete annual physical examination for each member of a family in the association; immunization and vaccination against smallpox, typhoid fever, and other diseases; consultation, not only from the office in Thedford but from Purdum, Brownlee, and Seneca; and all necessary drugs as prescribed by the doctor, and other attention. The association will provide a program of public health and prevention and health education in the schools.

The original group which worked behind the scenes in getting the health movement started is the "State health planning committee," headed by Harry G. Gould, assistant director of the Nebraska Agricultural Extension Service. The State Medical Association, represented in the committee, approved the project for sparsely settled areas such as the Sand Hills.

A university advisory health committee was set up with Mr. Gould, chairman and Miss Margaret Fedde, Miss Mary-Ellen Brown, and Dr. H. C. Filley as members.

Tall and vigorous Elin Anderson, Canadian born, was selected by the committee to work in the State. Some health studies and

surveys were conducted in Dawson County by Miss Anderson in cooperation with the agricultural and home demonstration agents. Later, a group of about 50 people representing the medical association farm leaders, and laymen met in Lincoln to discuss the health problem. They decided that one of the most neglected areas was in the Sand Hills in the vicinity of Thedford, where local people had expressed a desire to do something.

Ready support was found in the Sand Hills. Miss Anderson held conferences with several groups in the Sand Hills counties. Graham Davis, consultant of the hospitals of the Kellogg Foundation, came out to consider the advisability of hospital service for the area.

Dr. Loder of the State health department joined in. Ralph Price, prominent Thedford resident and cattleman, became enthusiastic. So did others. Dr. Loder and Price drove all over the Sand Hills area explaining the plan to ranchers.

The Thedford meeting was the result, and the Sand Hills Cooperative Health Association was on its way.

On the Calendar

National Tobacco Festival, South Boston, Va., September 3-4.

4-H Club Radio Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, arranged by Negro Extension Workers of Virginia, September 5.

Governmental Research Association, Princeton, N. J., September 7-9.

Dairy Cattle Congress, National Belgian Horse Show, and Allied Exhibits, Waterloo, Iowa, September 7-13.

National Recreation Congress, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 28-October 2.

4-H Community Garden

The Victory 4-H Club of Hanson County, S. Dak., has established a 4-H community garden. The garden space was made available to the club by one of the mothers. In a portion of the lot, a frame garden was constructed by the club members, and the remaining space was divided into equal areas for individual gardens.

■ Victory garden harvest shows are getting under way in city and country, backed by the many garden and horticultural groups and endorsed by the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. These shows exhibit products from the gardens, with samples of quantity and quality. Proceeds from sales go to the Army emergency and Navy relief.

How to can in Kansas



Kansas emergency nutritionists receive food preservation instructions from extension nutrition specialists.

■ A special wartime canning campaign is on in Kansas, reaching every rural and village homemaker with information on preservation and storage for Victory Garden produce.

During April, May, and June, rural women in every county were invited to attend food-preservation meetings conducted by the Extension Service. Home demonstration agents directed the work in their counties. In counties where only an agricultural agent is employed, food meetings were in charge of home economists employed for the purpose.

These emergency nutritionists, all former extension workers in Kansas, attended a training school before carrying the information to the counties. This school was conducted by Miss Georgiana H. Smurthwaite, State home demonstration leader, and two foods and nutrition specialists, Miss Gertrude Allen and Miss Mary Fletcher. Home demonstration agents had attended a refresher course in food preservation during Farm and Home Week in February.

From two to five meetings were held in each county. In the morning, neighborhood leaders learned about the methods of food preservation—storing, brining, freezing, drying, and canning. The afternoon session, open to the public, was a canning demonstration.

Each neighborhood leader who attended the morning meeting represented from 10 to 20 families. After the meetings, the leaders returned to their communities to pass on the information they had acquired, by means of organized meetings, home visits, or informal contacts.

To assist these neighborhood leaders in completing their work, Miss Allen compiled a series of six leaflets—each one on a different phase of food preservation. Emphasis was placed on preserving food with a minimum amount of sugar, and on methods of storing food that do not require the use of jar rubbers, covers, and other canning supplies. Special attention was given to retaining nutritive value of foods during the preserving process and in storage. These sheets discuss Preser-

vation by Brining, Preservation by Drying, Frozen Foods, Canning Fruits and Tomatoes, Canning Nonacid Vegetables, and Storage of Vegetables and Fruits.

To encourage women to volunteer as neighborhood food-preservation leaders, and to attend the canning demonstrations, a daily 5-

minute report, Victory Canning News, is given over the Homemakers' Hour program, Station KSAC, the Kansas State College radio station. In addition to a list of the counties where meetings are being held, food-preservation suggestions are given during the broadcast.

The food-preservation program was designed as a follow-up on the State Victory Garden program, conducted with the aid of the Kansas State College Extension Service.

■ Thirty-four North Dakota farmers from 33 counties enrolled in the Adult Farm Folk School held from January 19 to February 13.

During the 4 weeks that the men were at the college, they made an intensive study of the agricultural problems on their own farms as well as attending lectures and demonstrations on livestock feeding and management, plant diseases, crop improvement, soil management, poultry and dairy production, weed eradication, farm accounting, farm buildings and machinery, foods for defense, farm shop work, butchering and meat cutting, marketing, community leadership, and other subjects. The group of farmers were married men under 45 years of age who own or are operating a farm this year in North Dakota.

Boynton Beach cans its own

The small town of Boynton Beach, lying 12 miles south of Palm Beach, Fla., has organized a canning center to insure for the townspeople a better-balanced diet and to utilize surplus produce. The growth of this idea is told by a local member of the home demonstration club, Mrs. S. P. Adams, who organized the center.

■ When we got into the war, it seemed to me that we could best help our country by first helping ourselves. Every can of fruit or vegetables that we placed on the shelves of our home pantries released that much food for our Government to give to your boy and my boy in the military service. I talked to some of our local citizens about it, and they gave the use of a local club building for a canning center.

We first sent cards to six farmers, saying that we would can their surplus produce on a 50-50 basis, each farmer to furnish his own containers. Several farmers responded, and the canning center was established with only my one pressure cooker and tin-can sealer which I bought with the profits on my home demonstration cucumber patch. Two workers and I began the canning in January of this year.

Workers furnished their own equipment, including pans, pots, knives, and cans. The home demonstration agent, Mrs. Edith Y. Barrus, provided the center with another pressure cooker, a delver, and can lifters, as well as helping us in other ways. A farmer heard of our work and donated the use of another tin-can sealer. Two stoves were do-

nated by friends, and thus our enterprise grew.

Farmers and growers heard of the center and began to furnish produce. A telephone call to a fruit farm 25 miles west of West Palm Beach brought the promise of 40 boxes of citrus fruit which we sent for by truck. The services of the truck were paid for with 50 No. 2 cans of grapefruit sections and juice. The fruit was bought by the workers at the center and canned individually. The center has canned surplus produce south to Delray Beach and north to Lake Worth.

A hostess was appointed each day to provide lunch for the workers at noon. A small collection was taken for the main hot dish and drinks. The hostess was given the same ratio as the workers for providing and preparing the lunch.

Well-balanced pantries were made possible to 43 families with the more than 9,000 pints of fruit and vegetables canned at the center. The products canned were off-grade in quality and in other years would have gone to waste. Other small canning centers in the Boynton Beach community canned about 5,772 pints, reporting from 3 to 7 workers each. The 50-50 basis has proved most successful

in these centers, too. During the season 11 men, 29 women, and 5 girls worked in the canning center.

Tomato juice filled the largest number of cans—almost 3,000; tomatoes themselves took second place. Green lima beans, snap beans, green peas, sauerkraut, and grapefruit sections and juice also filled a large number of

cans. The summer fruits, mulberries, huckleberries, pineapples, mangoes, guavas, Surinam cherries, and citrus marmalades and jellies make popular canning these summer months.

The local seed store reports the sale of 25,000 tin cans and a number of glass jars to the people of the Boynton Beach community which is canning-conscious this year.

Machines must work efficiently

C. N. TURNER, Extension Agricultural Engineer, New York

■ With the slogan "Victory in Arms needs machines on farms," New York State farmers have taken a keen interest in the machinery clinics, tune-up meetings, and field-plow-adjustment demonstrations held during the spring and summer; for they know that if war goals are met, farm machinery must work, and work efficiently, in spite of a steel shortage or any other handicap. During the first 12 weeks of the farm-machinery repair program, more than 22,000 farmers attended these meetings, and 247 requested a farm visit to solve special problems.

This program sponsored by the New York State Agricultural Defense Committee, operates with funds made available by the New York State War Council. It made possible the hiring of 15 district agricultural engineers, one for each three to four counties in the State. These men were trained, equipped, and supervised by the department of agricultural engineering at Cornell University.

At 67 machinery clinics, each lasting from 3 to 5 days, the total attendance was 7,459. All types of machines were brought to a centrally located garage, high-school shop, or dealer's place, where farmers overhauled them under the supervision of the district engineer.

A 2-year-old mowing machine had been smashed against a tree by a runaway team. The owner had decided to discard it and buy a new one. The district engineer checked it over and asked the owner to bring it to the clinic. It was repaired; and it left the clinic as good as new; thus, several hundred pounds of iron and steel were saved.

A corn planter which would not sow the correct amount of seed per acre was brought to one of the clinics. The farmer stated that a dealer and the company service man had spent 3 days trying to locate the trouble. At the clinic the district engineer located the trouble and showed the owner how to fix it in about an hour and a half.

A grain drill 35 years old, which had not been in use for the past 2 or 3 years, was brought to a clinic and put in first-class working condition. The owner need not buy a new one nor borrow his neighbor's for several years to come.

A total of 474 one-day meetings were conducted where 9,712 farmers came to find out how to check their machines for needed repair parts, learn how to make adjustments, and to take better care of their machinery. At least 2 different types of machines, such as a plow, a mower, a grain drill, a sprayer, and a corn planter, were on hand for discussion and demonstration purposes.

After listening to a lecture demonstration on plows and mowers, one machinery dealer asked the district engineer to give the same instructions to his three service men.

At a series of five of the 1-day meetings, the district engineer found five mowing machines with from 2 to 5½ inches of lag in the cutter bar. They should have had at least 1 inch of lead in the bar for the least draft. Two of these mowers had the knife bar out of register, and all five machines were more than 15 years old. Each machine was worth repairing for a cost of about \$3 for parts, but it would take from 2 to 3 days to do the repair work. During this same week, three out of five tractor plows had the rear furrow wheel so far out of adjustment that they were not working.

Tractor Tune-up Meetings

At 215 tractor tune-up meetings, 4,673 farmers were given the opportunity to learn how to keep their tractor running longer, save fuel, and save rubber tires. Operating care and adjustments which could be done on the farm by the farmer were emphasized because repair work can best be accomplished by a service man with special tools.

More than 50 percent of the tractors brought to these meetings for instruction purposes were seriously out of adjustment, which would waste fuel, lose power, and soon cause a costly repair bill. Many farmers are afraid to make even minor adjustments. However, major repair facilities are better for tractors than for any other farm machine.

Even though farmers were busy with plowing when most of the field-plow-adjustment demonstrations had to be held, they had so much trouble with their tractor plows that they were willing to spend from 1 to 2 hours at a demonstration. The district engineer

demonstrated how any make or model of plow could be adjusted to work satisfactorily behind any make or model of tractor. One hundred and eighty-three of these demonstrations attracted 3,030 farmers.

Approximately 75 percent of the tractor plows which came to these demonstrations had the vertical hitch so high that the life of the steel points was reduced at least 50 percent. This, along with other incorrect adjustments, caused increased draft, waste of fuel, excessive wear on rubber tires, and increased the time and power required to fit the seedbed.

One county agricultural agent reported that farmers who had attended farm machinery meetings were being called in by neighbors to help adjust their plows for them, with reasonably good success.

One company branch warehouse report shows that farmers have cooperated in buying repair parts early. They state that sales of parts in February 1942 were 329 percent of those for February 1941, and that March 1942 sales were 144 percent of March 1941.

The farm-machinery dealer cooperation on the program has been most gratifying. It is estimated that two out of three of the indoor meetings have been held at dealer establishments. Dealers have helped to get machines at meetings for instruction purposes, assisted with publicity, and in some instances served coffee and sandwiches at all-day meetings.

The farm-machinery field is a large one; but it is being broadened to include care, repair, and adjustment of milking machines and water systems. These two pieces of equipment represent a large saving in labor to New York State dairymen. They both operate by electric motors which are difficult to replace.

The district engineers have also assisted one farmer in each county to build a "buck rake." These machines can be attached to a tractor, old auto, or truck, and take hay direct from the windrow to the barn floor. One man can pick up, transport, and unload hay with these rakes in less time than two men with the hay loader and wagon. Three men on the haying job can do as much as five with the conventional method.

The farm-machinery demonstration truck is being used with the "Watt-mobile" this summer to emphasize care, repair, and operation of farm equipment. Labor-saving equipment is discussed and exhibited. The Watt-mobile emphasizes the care, repair, and operation of both farm and home electrical equipment.

■ Meat for the family is being produced by 4-H Club members of Van Buren County, Mich., as their contribution to the war effort. In line with recommendations of the county USDA War Board, the club members enrolled in the meat-animal project and have been raising pigs and cattle for home consumption.

A dairy county emerges

Ready and willing to swell the milk supply for war needs, Knox County, Nebr., reaps the rewards of 5 years of dairy-improvement work under the leadership of County Agent L. K. Johansen. What steps were taken and how 4-H Clubs contributed are here reported by James C. Cline, cashier of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Bloomfield, Nebr.

■ During the past 5 years the improvement in dairy conditions in this locality has made excellent progress under the leadership of the Knox County extension agents. During the fall of 1937 a few farmers were induced to purchase Holstein cows in an effort to improve their dairy herds. About 30 head were placed before the end of that year. Particular care was taken in the selection of these cattle, as well as the purchasers, in the hope that more favorable results could be achieved, bringing about increased interest in the project. Mature animals were selected as they could more quickly be brought into production.

In 1938 about 54 Holsteins were shipped into the community to add further to the small start of the year before. Again, the cows were most carefully selected, and an effort was made to place them where best results could be assured. The extension agent held a series of public meetings to further the dairy-improvement idea and made innumerable personal contacts to promote this project.

The idea took hold slowly. Time was required to convince people that the addition of good dairy cows to their herds would pay for the additional cost and effort incident to their purchase and care.

About the beginning of 1939 it was possible to interest boys and girls sufficiently to start some 4-H dairy clubs. Several clubs were organized that year, and a number of good calves were placed in the community through this means. Calves and cows placed in the locality during the year numbered about 120 head.

The beneficial results that were hoped for were becoming evident. Increased revenue from the better cows was a topic of general discussion, and more and more inquiries were being made by farmers who had shown little interest in the matter. Unfortunately, good dairy cows were becoming harder to find and could be obtained only at higher costs; nevertheless, about 110 head of Holsteins were placed, including 2 cars of cows and bred heifers, purchased in Minnesota.

In 1941 the prices for mature animals reached the point where it was difficult to interest farmers in their purchase, so most of the activity for the year was centered on obtaining calves for the 4-H dairy projects being organized by the extension agent. About 110 head of calves were imported during the year for this purpose.

By the fall of 1941 and the spring of 1942, many calves purchased in previous years

were in production. Farmers, whose income from their cream checks had doubled and tripled as the result of owning good dairy cows, were spreading the good work with enthusiasm. As in the previous year, mature dairy animals were practically unobtainable at any reasonable price, so it was again necessary to devote most of the activity to bringing dairy calves into the community. Although many of these calves became 4-H Club projects, many more were bought by farmers interested in using them as the basis for a better dairy herd a year or more in the future. During the first 3 months of 1942, approximately 300 head of dairy calves were obtained and brought into the community; and the demand for these calves at present is limited only by the supply.

During all this period, many farmers who became interested in better dairy herds located their own source of supply and purchased independently. No record was kept of these cattle, but the total was considerable. The records of the extension office indicate that more than 700 head of dairy cattle, mostly Holstein, were located by the extension agents and brought into the locality through their cooperation.

Farmers Tell Success Stories

Many excellent reports have been received from farmers who have cooperated in this movement. One reported that in 1939 he had 8 cows of mixed breeds. He sold the entire herd and purchased 6 good-grade Holsteins. His herd now consists of 8 cows, 4 heifers, and also 6 steer calves which will go into the feed lot this fall, a total of 18 head. Where formerly his income from cream was about \$260 annually, it is now about \$780. Another reported that in 1937 he had a herd of 12 cows of mixed breeds. In 1938 he sold them and purchased 7 good-grade Holsteins with the same funds. He now has 9 Holstein cows in production, and, whereas in 1937 he felt fortunate if he received an average of \$40 gross a cow for each year, he now receives about \$80. Still another farmer who went into the project rather wholeheartedly purchased 4 cows, 7 yearling heifers, and a bull, after selling his herd of 10 mixed breeds. Later he added 2 cows and 6 heifers to the herd. He has sold cattle from this herd to the value of about \$1,500 and still has 30 head of cows and heifers remaining. Milk from an average of 9 cows has brought a monthly income of between \$80 and \$100.

The foregoing reports are but a few of

those received, all indicating the same favorable results from the efforts of the operators toward dairy herd improvement. In nearly all instances these favorable results were obtained with but little, if any, additional expense. Feeds used were produced on the farm, and no concentrates or alfalfa were used except in a few instances. In practically all of the herds from which reports have been received, there has been no great amount of pampering; so the results obtained might be further improved if better facilities were available and a little more care exercised in their handling.

A conservative estimate is that more than 1,000 head of good dairy cattle are in this community. The locality covered by this report lies mostly within the trade territory of Bloomfield where the project was first started.

Special credit for the results thus far obtained belongs to the county extension agents, who have labored unceasingly in inaugurating the movement and maintaining keen interest in it.

The War Program at Work

TWILIGHT MEETINGS to discuss making silage from grass and legumes to feed more dairy cows were well attended in Connecticut.

THE FIRST JOB assigned to Connecticut neighborhood leaders was a garden and canning inventory completed the middle of July.

500 NONCLUB MEMBERS were given emergency information in 1 month through the Victory leadership program of one Kentucky home demonstration club.

KENTUCKY STRAWBERRIES, about 1 million pounds of them, were processed for shipment to Great Britain.

FARM LABOR COMMITTEES have been set up in cooperation with the U. S. Employment Service in 35 of the 36 Oregon counties. They are working on three critical farm-labor problems—strawberry harvest in western Oregon, canning-pea harvest in Umatilla County, and sugar-beet thinning and blocking in Malheur and Umatilla Counties.

FIRE CONTROL is well organized in Wyoming counties adjacent to national forests. The counties are divided into zones with zone wardens and assistants cooperating with Office of Civilian Defense and Forest Service.

NUTRITION is receiving special attention in 18 Wyoming counties where nutrition committees have been set up in cooperation with the OCD. All home demonstration agents in the State are teaching Red Cross nutrition courses, and the nutrition specialist is cooperating with the Public Health Service in surveying 100 farm families in one county to determine existing food habits as a basis for nutrition work.

FOOD PRESERVATION, nutrition, and low-income diets were studied by 15,000 Arkansas women in meetings, demonstrations, and nutrition schools held by home demonstration agents. In addition, 147 nutrition centers served 3,625 people.

VICTORY GARDENS grow in Kansas, 50 percent more gardens than usual, and include a large increase in commercial acreage in tomatoes and sweetpotatoes. To keep these gardens growing, the emphasis is now on insect control. In Minnesota, too, 4-H Club members alone are growing 12,000 Victory gardens. Nebraska reports more than 93,225 Victory garden sign-up cards turned in.

VICTORY CAPTAINS they are called in Nebraska, and in each township a man and a woman captain have been appointed to assist

in selecting and training neighborhood leaders in their respective areas. Leaders act as wardens, anti-inflation discussion leaders, and purveyors of information on salvage and such things.

ENRICHED BREAD and flour are getting special emphasis in Arizona. Milk campaigns for school lunches to be ready for the fall opening of school are uppermost in home demonstration plans in several counties. Arizona home demonstration agents are also starting programs on the timely subject of sugar substitutes.

FARM-TO-FARM CANVASS in North Dakota will determine the harvest and threshing labor requirements, so that constructive plans can be made to meet any labor situation.

Growers estimate that the 2,871 crates processed at the plant represent approximately two-fifths of the season's crop. The remainder of the crop was sometimes sold on the fresh market, but usually was wasted.

The harvesting cost was a little higher in picking for the processing plant in comparison with picking for the fresh market, because the berries had to be stemmed. Growers paid \$1.20 a crate for the work, but the crates were returned to them, which saved 42 cents a crate usually lost on the fresh market.

Good Soldiers on the Home Front

Through their home demonstration club program, women of Kent County, Del., are keeping well informed on what makes for good soldiers on the home front. This motto has been adopted by the women and will be carried out by each and every club member.

At the June club meetings, Good Soldiers on the Home Front was the title of a panel discussion led by three members of each group. Topics discussed in the panel all pertained to what women can do to help win the war.

The introduction to the panel discussion was a quotation from Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, in which he recognized the importance of the work that farm women of today are doing. Leading on from this, the panel included: The monetary and health value of a garden; meeting the reduced sugar supply in meal planning and canning; the reasons for doing more canning this year; making the families' clothes last longer by renovation, better care, and storage; salvaging for victory, the materials needed and why they are needed; the dangers of hoarding, the whys and wherefores of rationing; explanation of the new building laws; cleaning out attics for salvage and as a fire precaution; automobile pooling; and completed by a general philosophy of good home management for these trying times.

The panel discussion lasted about 25 minutes, and then the meeting was turned into an open discussion. It was found by the questions asked and the opinions expressed that the women were genuinely interested in this type of meeting. This panel discussion program was given at 23 Kent County home demonstration club meetings.

Further the plan of keeping farm people well informed, the annual homemakers' short-course program included talks by representatives of various war agencies.

Two members of the Delaware Office of Price Administration talked to the group on sugar and gasoline rationing. The offices of Civilian Defense and the War Savings Staff were also represented.

Delaware homemakers know full well the part that they, as good soldiers on the home front, are playing in winning this war, and they will not be found lagging.—*Florence L. Yetter, home demonstration agent, Kent County, Del.*

Oklahoma agent uses all resources to save county strawberry crop

■ Allied fighting forces throughout the world will be getting strawberry preserves next winter made from the 1942 crops of Adair County, Okla. These strawberries threatened to be a total loss until the county agent, Titus Manasco, working with the growers, local businessmen, lease-lend officials, and the radio station, worked out a plan which brought \$89,388 to the county and saved needed food for the United Nations.

The plan grew out of a drug-store conference of the agent, a local grower, and the Indian farm agent, on April 26, a week before the berries were ready to pick. Even then it was apparent that there were stormy waters ahead for the berry growers.

On May 4, when sugar rationing went into effect, the market went to pieces, and a bountiful crop started going to waste; but the growers knew that Manasco and others were working on the problem and were not panicky.

Briefly, the plan which was put into operation so successfully was this:

Prior to the conference, Manasco had called a meeting of the county growers, and they had worked out agreements as to the price of picking, how many pickers each would need, and where they would get them.

An organized method of communication told the pickers where they were needed, and trucks hauled them to work. The 3,500 to 4,000 pickers hired were all local people, and the pay roll stayed in the county.

Before the plan went into operation, little profit was made in the strawberry business. Local growers paid 72 cents a crate for picking and 42 cents for the crate, plus costs of row bosses, shed hands, and transportation—a total cost of \$1.35 a crate. With the berries selling at \$1.75, there was little profit.

When the market selling price dropped to \$1.40, berry picking stopped. After the plan was put into operation, growers netted an average of \$1.50 a crate above operating costs.

This is the especially interesting feature of the entire procedure. Each grower had already made arrangements with the pickers who were to work for him and with the truckers. Work from day to day was uncertain because of the difficulty of procuring barrels, which had to be shipped in.

Pickers and growers were advised to listen each morning to the radio for instructions regarding the day's work.

Manasco would call radio station KVOO in Tulsa and give instructions as to where workers would be used that day. Sam Schneider, the station farm editor, would give the agent's instructions on his 6:45 broadcast, and the pickers listening in knew whether or not they were to work that day.

Pickers were located by communities, and arrangements were made with a local truck owner to haul them to work for 10 cents a person a day.

This is the way the lend-lease program fits into the picture.

The berries were taken to a processing plant. A barrel was filled with 350 pounds of berries and 40 pounds of a liquid preservative solution composed of a gas mixture of sulphadioxide, calcium carbonate, and water. These barrels were then shipped to undisclosed points. It seems that the solution turns the berries white, but when heat is applied they resume their natural color.

With the exception of the manager, a special man to cap and seal the barrels, and two inspectors, all the labor at the plant was local, and the pay roll amounted to \$3,500.

County Agent Makes Travel Study

A 6-months' leave of absence was used by Clarence Johnson, agricultural agent of Schenectady County, N. Y., to visit county extension offices throughout the United States in order to study their organization and management. In addition to gathering information in 47 county extension offices and conferring with State leaders in several States, he spent some time in the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. There he attended conferences and examined annual reports of extension workers from a number of States.

In reporting his study, Mr. Johnson gives his observations of typical county extension offices in various sections of the country—the differences in location of the offices and available parking space, floor space and office equipment, storage facilities, filing systems, personnel, and extent to which offices are shared with other Government agencies.

Also included are interesting descriptions of extension offices in Arizona, California, Illinois, New York, Texas, and Wyoming, which are cited as examples typical of their respective regions. Diagrams of various extension offices are also given in his study, entitled, *Organization and Management of the County Extension Office*. (Typewritten thesis, January, 1942.)

Building on a Good Beginning

Studies recently made of the neighborhood leader system in Iowa, Massachusetts, and North Carolina have shown that coverage of families and response can be obtained, that the response is greater when the neighborhood leaders make contact with the families than when they do not, and that families not previously reached by the Extension Service are being reached and are responding. Studies have also brought out spots in the organization which need servicing, and have yielded suggestions for strengthening the organization. These suggestions are:

1. The neighborhood leader is responsible for a small number of families. If the names of these families have not been listed, or if the list is incomplete, coverage will be incomplete.

2. A man neighborhood leader and a woman neighborhood leader should be paired, each having the same list of names. Programs such as farm machinery can be handled best by the man, and those such as whole-wheat or enriched bread can be handled best by the woman.

3. The status of the neighborhood leader as a neighborhood leader needs building up. If families are informed of the functions of the neighborhood leader and he is given a little more information earlier than his neighbors, families may begin to call on him for information. Neighborhood leaders elected by their neighbors are better known and bet-

EXTENSION RESEARCH

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ter received than those selected by other methods. Negro families respond best to a Negro neighborhood leader.

4. Neighborhood leaders are willing to help on important assignments, but their interest needs to be maintained. Keeping in touch with them keeps their interest alive. Visit them. Write to them. Keep them informed. Informative training meetings have inspirational and encouragement value that would be difficult to obtain by sending materials through the mails. Supervision of neighborhood leaders needs to be definitely planned and systematically executed.

5. Careful consideration of its importance should be given before a new job is assigned. Careful consideration of plans and materials must precede the training of neighborhood leaders. Willing leaders can easily be overworked if they have too many jobs or if jobs are poorly planned or unimportant. They can handle about one assignment a month, or, during the busy season, only an urgent assignment.

6. The message that a neighborhood leader leaves with a family depends directly upon the training he has received. Neighborhood leaders must be trained in the teaching side of the job. They must be taught to do more than simply to distribute literature. Families expect a leader to explain *why* a program is important, as well as *what* to do and *how* to do it.

7. Instructions and directions given to neighborhood leaders should be simple and definite. Informational materials for rural families need to be simple and understandable, and definitely directed toward the specific response desired. Use common, well-known words, short sentences, and short paragraphs. Itemize and number statements. Use underlining or capital letters for emphasis. Cartoons, pictures, or charts often convey the essential idea quickly. Questions and answers are helpful. Lay people will not read a long document.

8. Care should be exercised to insure that families derive satisfaction from the action taken. Where agencies other than the Extension Service are involved, it is exceedingly important to make sure that adequate facilities are provided and that the necessary follow-through is taken care of on time. Broken promises lose confidence and add to confusion.

9. The county USDA War Board and professional workers' councils can be helpful in

planning wartime campaigns and in training neighborhood leaders.

10. The size of the task confronting the Cooperative Extension Service in establishing, perfecting, and properly supervising a personal contact system of voluntary local leaders in every county, every community, and every neighborhood must not be minimized. Persistent painstaking effort over a substantial period of time will be necessary to get the neighborhood leader system into complete and satisfactory operation.

Surveying Food for Defense

Missouri has already had considerable experience with neighborhood leadership in the food for home and defense campaign carried on in that State. In enrolling families in this war program, information on the food habits of 36,571 farm families (139,822 people) in 73 Missouri counties has been obtained with the assistance of local leaders.

The survey shows that most of the families grew lettuce, onions, peas, beets, green beans, tomatoes, potatoes, and radishes. From 75 to 90 percent of the families raised cabbage, carrots, sweet corn, and cucumbers. Approximately three-fifths of the families grew spinach, mustard greens, turnips, peppers, lima beans, and sweetpotatoes. Less than half of the families grew fruits and berries. The average family kept 91 hens and 2 milk cows. Butter was made by 74 percent of the families in the winter and by 66 percent in the summer.

Twenty-nine percent of the farm families had pressure cookers. On the average the families canned, per person, 27 quarts of fruits, 11 quarts of tomatoes, 3 quarts of peas, and 14 quarts of other vegetables.

Less than half of the families ate fruit twice a day or drank milk three times a day; less than one-fifth of them ate whole-grain bread or cereal twice a day; approximately one-third of them consumed green, yellow, or leafy vegetables once a day; and three-fourths of them ate tomatoes three times a week. Three-fifths of the families had meat every day and approximately three-fourths of them served an egg a day.

FOOD FOR HOME AND DEFENSE SURVEY. Missouri Extension Service.

■ In a study of the food habits of 260 Ohio farm families, families with homemakers participating in Extension were found to have better food habits than families with nonparticipating homemakers. Participating families consumed more milk, butter, eggs, raw fruits, green and yellow vegetables, and whole-grain cereals or enriched bread.

Likewise, the families with homemakers participating in Extension excelled families with nonparticipating homemakers in all food production except vegetables, brood sows, pigs, pork, honey, and molasses.

1942 OHIO STATE EXTENSION PUBLICATION ON FOOD HABITS OF 260 FARM FAMILIES (reviewed in February Review).

OPA explains the price ceiling as it refers to consumer services

Experts from the Office of Price Administration interpret some aspects of the Maximum Price Regulation for Extension agents

■ Extension workers can now assure rural dwellers that the last large section of the over-all price ceiling has been set in place. Maximum Price Regulation No. 165, Consumer Services, effective July 1, accomplishes this purpose. Under the General Maximum Price Regulation, ceiling prices were set for most wholesale goods and services on May 11 and for sales of most retail goods on May 18. Like the General Maximum, the Consumer Service Regulation uses the general base of the highest prices charged in March 1942. Covering as it does, another estimated 7½ cents of the average consumer's dollar, this regulation will help to cinch control over the cost of living for the duration.

In general, rates for consumer services cannot exceed the highest rates charged by individual service establishments in March 1942. The ceiling order, allows, however, for adjustments to meet problems peculiar to consumer services.

Maximum Price Regulation No. 165 covers only services to the ultimate consumer; such as, housewives, motorists, and farmers. Commercial or industrial services remain under the General Maximum Price Regulation. As defined, consumer services include only services to a commodity. This definition omits personal and professional services rendered, for example, by barbers, beauticians, doctors, lawyers, or veterinarians.

Other exclusions derive from the organic Price Control Act. One of the most important of these is wages, although services to a commodity on a price "by the job" are covered. For instance, if a farmer has a new roof put on his barn for a lump sum, the transaction comes under price control; if he buys the materials and hires someone to lay the roof by the hour, the transaction does *not* come under price control. The farmer's telephone and electricity bills are excluded, as are all rates charged by public utilities. His life insurance and fire insurance premiums are exempt. Neither does the present law prevent the boosting of subscriptions to his favorite farm weekly or tickets to the local theatre. (News-papers, magazines, and entertainment services are exempt.) Also excluded are fees for farm management and tree surgery.

Still another class of exemptions represents those services controlled by some other Federal agency. The Office of Price Administration will not step in to regulate rates for grain warehousing for the United States Government, or rates regulated by the De-

partment of Agriculture under the Stock-yards and Packers Act.

One broad exemption of interest to farmers has been made. This excludes charges for services performed on a farm in connection with the planting or harvesting of crops, the raising of livestock or poultry, or their preparation for market. These services are primarily seasonal. Many of them were not performed during March, and great difficulty might be experienced in calculating maximum prices. In order that this difficulty might not delay the obtaining of such services, the Office of Price Administration has freed from the price ceiling the rates charged for such services.

Exclusions are few; the inclusions could hardly be named in one book. The farmer knows he will have to pay no higher than March rates for such important services as repairs to his automobile, truck, or farm machinery; repairs to harness; and tire repair and vulcanizing. The farmer's wife can take comfort in reasonable rates for services such as shoe repairing, dry cleaning, repair of appliances, food locker service and rental, and upholstery repair. Even the final and solemn services of a funeral director come under price control (under the General Maximum Price Regulation).

Estimates place the total number of service establishments covered at about 1 million and the money spent by consumers for the services they furnish at 5 billion dollars a year.

AMONG OURSELVES

■ FRANK P. REED, since 1917 assistant State 4-H Club leader with the Iowa State College Extension Service, passed away suddenly at his home in Ames on May 12. Mr. Reed had been active in his work and apparently in good health. A cerebral hemorrhage was the cause of his death.

Mr. Reed had given generously to the 4-H Club program for nearly a quarter of a century. Fellow workers in the Extension Service will feel a great loss in his going.

■ WEALTHY M. HALE, well known as home-management specialist in Wisconsin for 20 years, has retired from active duty. She

was one of the first home-management specialists to introduce the business side of homemaking into the extension program. She believed that the homemakers needed to know more about the making of wills, banking, insurance, and account keeping and has written of her methods in the REVIEW for the benefit of other extension workers. Her many friends in the Extension Service congratulate her on her 20 years of achievement and wish her many more years of health and usefulness.

■ GRACE E. FRYSSINGER of the Federal Extension Service was honored by her alma mater, Drexel Institute of Technology, Philadelphia, Pa., in receiving the honorary degree of doctor of science on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the institution. The citation referred to Miss Frysinger's record as first woman president of the American Country Life Association, one-time vice president of the Associated Country Women of the World and of the American Association for Adult Education. The degree carried the following citation: "A woman of international distinction and expert in the problems of rural home life. As an educator and writer, she has rendered invaluable service in the improvement of rural life in all parts of the world, especially in America, where by virtue of her high position as Senior Home Economist in the Department of Agriculture, she has made outstanding contributions to the improvement of the standards of living in the rural communities of our country."

■ DR. P. J. FINDLEN recently joined the economics section of the Federal Extension Service for the duration of the emergency, taking the place of Dr. W. C. Ockey who went to the War Production Board. Dr. Findlen will specialize in the marketing of fruits and vegetables. He was graduated from the University of Maine in 1931 and received his Ph. D. at Cornell University, N. Y., in 1937.

■ MRS. M. LURETTA RAMSEY, whom many visitors to the Federal Extension Service will remember as presiding over the Extension picture files, recently retired from active duty after 20 years as an Extension worker. Mrs. Ramsey came to Washington from Nebraska during the first World War and did her war work in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance. During her stay in the National Capitol, Mrs. Ramsey also spent about two years working in the Washington office of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

■ TOM G. STITTS, new chief of the Dairy and Poultry Branch of the Agricultural Marketing Administration, was a county agent in Minnesota for 5 years and was one of the organizers of the Land O' Lakes Creameries, Inc., a cooperative organization.

Last-minute items

Reflecting current extension activities as we go to press

LEON HENDERSON recently wrote Secretary Wickard, expressing his appreciation for the fine cooperation in carrying out the educational program with rural people on price control. He wrote: "Particularly do we wish to point out that the Federal and State Agricultural Extension Services are doing an excellent job. In fact, our reports indicate that the work being done by the Extension Service through its neighborhood-leader system is the best that is being done in rural areas. Will you please pass on to your extension people our sincere appreciation and assure them that the Office of Price Administration field organization is keenly interested in strengthening this cooperative relationship to the end that the educational program already launched may be extended still further for the duration."

INFLATION BREEDS FARM DISTRESS is the title of an attractive new folder, illustrated with cartoons and pictographs, put out by the Minnesota Extension Service.

WAR PROJECTS in Michigan include the collection of milkweed floss. The U. S. Navy wants 1 million pounds of floss for inner linings of jackets. County agents of north Michigan have organized to supply that amount and deliver it to a processing plant to be located in Petoskey, Emmet County, Mich.

TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS occupy the minds of agents who are trying to estimate the amount of life left in their tires and how much rationed gas they will be allotted. A national survey of all extension cars shows that in general many extension cars will be off the road this year if no more rubber is available. Certainly, every effort to conserve the tires and gasoline is imperative. Kansas and Delaware urge workers to take train and bus when possible, and other States are sending State workers out in teams to save travel. A careful inventory of the travel resources and the need for travel is the order of the day. Missouri has placed 5 State-owned cars at strategic railway centers. Workers travel from Columbia to these points by train or bus.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEES of from five to seven farmers were set up during July in Oregon counties to work out the problems of transporting farm products to market. To assist county agents in servicing the committees, the Oregon Experiment Station is assembling, by counties, a list of all farm-owned trucks, with the name of the owner, address, capacity, and model. This list will help in making recommendations for allocations and in sizing up the truck transportation problem by communities.

FARM LABOR REPORT just received from Ohio gives the results of a survey conducted by 85 county labor subcommittees with 765 members. Five persons were selected from each township to make the survey. Each person was given 5 schedules, 1 for his own farm and 1 for each of the 4 consecutive farms along the road in any direction. The 5 persons were distributed geographically over the township and represented different types of farming. Reports were received from 85 of the 88 counties, with more than 21,000 reports submitted to the county offices.

LABOR-POOL SERVICE is finding favor in Kentucky. Labor exchanges, labor pools, and the full use of power machinery are being perfected in many localities. Neighborhood or community leaders find their greatest present usefulness in serving as information centers for labor supply and custom work or co-operative use of power machinery. If the war continues another year, there seems reason to believe that this labor-pool service will reach a high degree of effectiveness.

RECOGNITION for neighborhood leaders in Iowa is a card certifying to the appointment as "volunteer cooperator in all activities in relation to food production and conservation necessary to the successful prosecution of the war by the United States Government and its Allies." The card is signed by the Iowa director of extension, by M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the county agent.

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EXTENSION SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
M. L. WILSON, Director
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VICTORY COUNCILS are organized in 247 Texas counties with 10,237 men and women serving as community leaders in the human chain system of communications. In 1 east Texas county visited by floods, steps were taken to avoid epidemics of typhoid, dysentery, and other diseases, and rural families were notified through the chain of necessary precautions. Public-health centers opened to give people serum shots and advice on sanitation problems. Another county which lost 60,000 acres of oats and 40,000 acres of wheat to green bugs used its chain to obtain pooled orders for seed oats and seed wheat. The job was done in 48 hours.

FERTILIZER SITUATION in wartime was given careful consideration in a series of conferences called by WPB in July and attended by economists and agronomists from State agricultural colleges. As a result, an order is expected which will control the manufacture and direct the distribution of the chemical nitrogen carriers, will reduce the number of grades of fertilizer in the interest of economy, and will reduce the amount of filler in fertilizer.

NATIONAL SCRAP HARVEST is in full swing again, harvesting everything useful in war—household fats for munitions, old iron, old rubber, and other types of useful salvage. Every day new stories of fine achievement among 4-H boys and girls in salvage collection come to the Federal office.

VICTORY GARDENS are still very much in the wind. Fall gardens, saving seed, plans and materials for the 1943 campaign are all getting talked about. More about the national plans in the next issue.

FOOD PRESERVATION in Maine is being furthered by the placing of additional home demonstration agents, made possible by allocation of funds by the Governor from the State Emergency War Fund.

SUGAR RATIONING was the first job tackled by Nevada neighborhood leaders. Farmers and ranchers live great distances from town, and the services of the leaders were helpful and appreciated. Four publications on rationing and ways to conserve sugar were sent to all farm families through the leaders.

CITY-COUNTRY GARDENS are the thing with Fayette County, Ky., boys. A 4-H farm boy and a city boy living in Lexington cultivate the garden jointly and share equally in the produce.

NINETY PERCENT of the 1,879 boys and girls attending Oregon 4-H Club summer school reported that they had bought war bonds. One hundred percent had participated in 1 or more of the salvage programs.